

YOUTH GOLF
TOURNEY



John Marshall
Folmar
Celebrates 1st
Birthday



Young Drew
Floyd Makes
Unassisted Triple
Play



Lewis-Moore
United In Holy
Matrimony



The Elba Clipper

Volume 104, Number 4

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 6, 2000

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Elba BOE names Williams principal

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Board of Education met in special session Thursday evening for the express purpose of approving recommendations for hiring of additional teachers, a coach, staff members and a high school principal.

Danny Weeks made his first official appearance before the group as Superintendent of Schools. He was prepared with his recommendations and the meeting was brief and uneventful.

Recommended by Weeks and hired at the Elementary School were: Shannon Calvert as Secretary/Bookkeeper. She has been fill-

ing the position since the middle of the past year. Stephanie Brunson as P.E. Aide. She had moved up from Aide in the middle of the past year to temporarily fill a vacancy as P.E. teacher. Kayle Phillips was hired as an elementary classroom teacher.

This is Williams first job as a principal, but he has a number of years in administration and coaching on both the high school and college level. He is a native of Greenville. Williams has coached in Samson, Ozark, Andalusia (head coach and Athletic Director), University of Southern Mississippi, and as head football at Jacksonville State.

Both Lambert and Spurlin did their practice teaching in Elba. Lambert, a native of Frisco City, comes to Elba after teaching in Montgomery. Spurlin, a native of

Opp, is presently teaching a summer school class in the Elba system.

Bledsole comes to Elba from #5 Greenville, and includes in his resume a stint as coach at Geneva for seven years.

Construction projects on County schools' campuses nearing completion

by Marvin McLwain, Editor

The Coffee County Board of Education held its monthly meeting at high noon on Thursday, June 29, with a relatively short meeting agenda.

Superintendent Rodger Bowden reported to board members that the construction projects at both the Zion Chapel and New Brockton Elementary Schools were going well. A scheduled "punch list" with the state building commission is set for July 12th.

"After they do that, there will be some things that will have to be corrected," said Bowden. "But, I think shortly there after we will be able to start moving some furniture in if they meet that July 12 deadline which they (the contractor) have assured me they will. I think we'll get into the buildings before school starts."

Bowden told board members that the first report to the Justice Department regarding the consent decree was ready to be sent off. He

said it contained a lot of material that was too extensive to be gone over in a board meeting, but copies were being prepared for each board member to review before it is forwarded to the Justice Department.

The report contains the present minority to white ration in the staff employed by the Coffee County School System. It also contains other documents, one of which is a discipline report compiled from information received from each principal in the school system.

Dr. Linda Ingram told board members that the test scores for the 1999-2000 school year showed improvement in most all areas. In most areas of testing, the county students scored at or above the state average. She told board members that she was in the process of preparing a report on how each school in the system fared and it would be ready for their review in the near future.

At the recommendation of Supt. Bowden, the board approved the system's Special Education, Gifted,

and 504 Disability plans. They were not individually reviewed in Thursday's meeting. The board also gave Bowden permission to apply for federal funds.

In other business the board approved the purchase of a Combipan Skittle for the New Brockton School Cafeteria. Moore-Warren Equipment of Dothan, Ala. was the low bidder at \$10,647. Other bids awarded in connection with the Child Nutrition Program included the following: supplying dairy products for the next school year went to Cowart's Dairy Fresh of Dothan - \$42,073.50; and bread products went to Dothan Earth Grains - \$7,347.50.

At the recommendation of Golda Donaldson, the board awarded technology bids for computer workstations and printers to be used in the computer lab in New Brockton High School. Low bidder on the workstation was TechLNA of Macon, Ga. at \$1,356 for each station (computer hardware). Bull Information Systems of Montgomery was the low bidder on the printer at \$264 each.

The following personnel changes, at the recommendation of Supt. Bowden, were approved:

Professional: Employed Cara Knighten, guidance counselor; Katherine Neis, language arts teacher/varsity cheerleader sponsor; James Wise, social studies teacher/junior high football coach, boys junior high basketball coach, and assistant baseball coach; Assigned the following: Randy Grant, head football and softball coach; Kenneth Senn, assistant football coach and B-team basketball coach; John McCorty, assistant football coach; Mark Coale, assistant football coach and girls junior



COMPUTER MAGIC...Merlin Computers of Elba held its grand opening on Saturday, June 24, but the Elba Chamber of Commerce and area officials got a jumpstart in helping the business celebrate its opening with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday afternoon, June 23. The city's newest business is located at 353 W. Davis Street on the square in downtown Elba and specializes in computer hardware, software, networking, upgrades, e-mail access, as well as, providing lessons. Those present for the ribbon cutting ceremony were (from left to right): Kayla Eddins, Miss Zion Chapel; Kenneth Calhoun; Mayor James Grimes; Heather Sasser, employee; Katelyn Hutto, Future Little Miss Elba; Steven and Julie Farmer, owners; Isaac Hutchison, dressed as "Merlin"; an unidentified child; Kaye Whitworth, executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce; Jimmy Harrison; Frances Bradshaw; and Herby McCall.

NB Council holds abbreviated meeting

by Marvin McLwain, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council meeting on the eve of the Fourth of July holiday wasted little time in conducting the town's business. The meeting lasted twenty-three minutes.

Ms. Lucille Latham, a representative from the Coffee County Family Services Center, asked for the council assistance in spreading the word about a new Cancer Early Detection Program.

The program provides free pelvic exams, clinical breast exams and

mammograms (age 50 and older). It is primarily for women age 40 and older and for women without insurance or who are underinsured and meet the income guidelines.

More information is available by calling 923-8538 or 347-9574.

In other business the council passed a new ordinance read at the law meeting setting the poll hours - 8 a.m. until 7 p.m. - for the upcoming municipal election.

Mayor Britt Lee also told members of the council that other election information was available in their folders. He noted that the elec-

tions are set for August 22 with the run-off (should one be needed) being held on Sept. 12.

The council approved bills totaling \$48,340.13 and reviewed a 9 months comparison of the budget. Mrs. Annette Williams, the city clerk commented, "I think we're going to be alright."

Police Chief Jerry Gilbert reported that his department issued 36 traffic citations, made one arrest, and investigated four accidents. The fire department responded to one house fire and three grass fires. Nine dogs were captured.

Area farmers still in drought trouble

by Linda Hodge, Staff Writer

Although the recent appearance of rain showers in the area has been very good for everyone and everything, too much dry time now could still spell disaster for area farmers, especially in the winter months.

"The recent rain has helped the grass grow so the cows are eating it some instead of just hay," said Stan Windham, Coffee County Extension Agent. "We are still way behind in rainfall, and it wouldn't take much more dry weather to get us back where we were several weeks ago."

Windham said the county is about 12 inches behind in the normal rainfall amount for this time of year. This, in turn, has caused area

farmers already to miss two cuttings of hay this year.

"I find the tenth of each month to be a good time to cut hay," Windham said. "We are concerned with the hay supply because we've already missed two cuttings, and we're coming up on another cut in a few days."

He said the winter months are going to be rough for farmers if they miss another hay cut because many of them have already had to feed from their reserve because of the drought. At present, farmers are looking at only getting about half the amount of hay they usually cut this time of year.

"If we get some good rain, we could get a late cut," Windham said. "Right now we're looking at two maybe three cuttings, and if we don't cut some hay, the winter doesn't look good."

On the upside of this continued concern for farmers, Windham said the county is still receiving hay donations from other parts of the country that have not been affected so drastically by the drought. On Friday of last week, he said they were working on the third load of hay and were trying to see that every farmer on the list gets some of the hay.

"We're doing real good with the hay donations," said Windham. "The people are real appreciative."

He said Coffee County has one of the bigger lists since it is in the top five of the state's agribusiness counties and in the top 25 of the state's cattle producing counties.

"I haven't turned down a load yet, and I'm not going to," Windham said. "We just hope to continue to get some hay to help our farmers."

As for the crops, he said the rains came totally too late to help the corn crop, but it has helped the peanut and cotton crops some.

"A lot of these didn't get good stands so they are hurting as well," he said. "But, there has been some late germination, and the rains have been beneficial to these fields."

Windham said what the county needs is a good soaking of rain because everything depends on a lot of "ifs" right now, and this ultimately boils down to all the concerns and problems from the drought becoming even larger problems in the winter if the rains stop again.

"This ordeal has been such a big concern for us because we've had dry spells before, but not that early and not that long so early," Windham said. "For now, we just hope for the best."

NEWS BRIEF

A motion filed by the Coffee County Commission's attorney to have the legal action filed against the commission by the Revenue Commissioner dismissed has been denied.

The motion was to dismiss Ronnie Burns', Revenue Commissioner, petition for declaratory in the recent firing, by the commission, of Angela Byrd, chief real property appraiser for the county. Burns' contends that the commission had no authority to fire Byrd who is facing DUI charges, and tested positive for drugs while operating a county vehicle.

Circuit Judge Gary McAliley has set the trial date for Sept. 19, to hear Burns' petition.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA...The entranceway to the home of Max and Vanessa Davis of Elba was decorated in red, white and blue earlier this week symbolizing the 224th birthday of the United States. It wasn't hard to find a flag flying in Elba on Tuesday, July 4, as the city, as well as the entire country observed this all-important birthday. Whether the day was celebrated with a cookout, fireworks or a trip to the beach, it was one day in the year when all American shared a common bond as they showed their true colors...Red, White and Blue.

Elba man arrested on robbery charge

Elba police have arrested an Elba man on robbery charges.

Keith Shintell Tyson, 20, of 311 West Street, Elba, was arrested on June 21 and charged with robbery in the first degree.

According to Investigator Johnny P. Senn with the Elba Police Department, a complaint was received on June 15 that a person had been robbed. During the investigation of the incident, it was found that a student at Elba High

School had left the school grounds after football workouts and given a ride home to a teammate who resides in the Mulberry Heights Community.

After stopping off the teammate, the student alleges that a black male armed with a knife took his wallet containing approximately \$163. The student was not injured during the alleged incident.

Tyson was placed in the Coffee County jail on a \$20,000 bond.

Area Happenings

COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING. The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting Monday, July 10, 2000, at 9 a.m. in the Community Room located in the County Complex in New Brockton, Ala.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE. The American Red Cross will hold a community blood drive in Elba at the First United Methodist Church in Elba on Friday, July 14, from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.. All blood types are needed - there is a shortage of types O- and O+.

WATER USAGE RESTRICTION. New Brockton Water Department announces that the New Brockton, Damascus, Ino, Clintonville, and Tabernacle areas are permitted to do outside watering on an odd/even basis. Even numbered house addresses may water on even calendar days, and odd numbered house addresses may water on odd calendar days. The New Brockton Water Department thanks all customers for their cooperation during this time of extreme drought.

FARMERS MARKET. The Coffee County Farmer's Market, located at the Farm Center in New Brockton, is now open. The market will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or until produce is sold out. Sellers will need a growers permit & a Farmer's Market permit - both can be obtained at the Extension Office located in the County Complex. For more information, contact Richard Fletcher, County Extension Agent, at 894-5596.

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

The news is not good for Elba and Geneva folks who believed our Washington politicians when they promised the money for the rebuild of the levee projects would be in the budget this year. The House of Representatives passed their version of the Energy and Water appropriations just before taking off for the 4th of July holiday and there is no mention of the levee work for Elba and Geneva. There was a high classed statement about "the Committee has been unable to provide funds for new projects, both studies and construction projects, within the water resources programs of the Corps of Engineers." The report noted the need to protect ongoing projects from cost increases, but the same applies to the levee projects. The Corps of Engineers projected the cost, assuming the promised funding would be there and said postponement would cause cost increases. Now if anyone takes a quick read of the funded projects, they might think that oysters in Chesapeake Bay are more important than the welfare of humans because the House of Representatives did provide funds for protecting the oysters in that Bay! Our only hope now is that our U. S. Senators will come through as they have repeatedly promised and get the necessary funds in their version of the appropriations bill. Then the fight will move to the conference committee, where we lost most of the levee rebuilding funding in 1998.

Up in Winston County, state and federal authorities have jailed a whole bunch of prominent folks on charges of buying elections. Of course that is against the law and should be stopped but... we grew up next door to Coffee County in Covington County and there were always stories of money, whiskey, etc. being exchanged for favorable votes on election day. Then all over Alabama it got to where politicians couldn't trust the folks taking their dirty political money... we heard from a pretty reliable source of a case in Enterprise where the "boss" was taking money from both sides and supporting the one he wanted to support... Back to Covington County... The last big situation we knew of over there was when a cab driver was reportedly given a bunch of whiskey to deliver real late on the night before the election and didn't do what he was told. The story is that while waiting time to start his deliveries, he began sampling the goods, passed out in his cab and was found the next morning by the folks paying the bill for his "deliveries." Needless to say, that ended his career of helping control political races! It apparently was also the end of wholesale, open bribery cases in that county.

We have had a number of folks commenting that they expected weekly updates on our new granddaughter. Folks, we will not do that to you... most of you have your own stories to tell and listening is something we do well. However, there has been a noticeable change in grandmother. You see, the two of us work six and sometimes part of the seventh day every week and still (thankfully) don't catch up at *The Elba Clipper* office. Then he comes a new granddaughter and suddenly Haddy has nothing to do but spend three days in Opelika doing over the new grandbaby. One of the notes she left for me as she went out the back door was to make the two gallons of tea she had promised for a church social. Now that she knows of our ability in that department, the next thing she will be expecting is for to dish washing and/or taking out the garbage!

Haddy and I went to a family reunion Saturday, something most folks do on a regular basis. We were on the main highway for just a few short miles, but gosh half the bumper was headed to the beach! The string of cars were bumper to bumper on Highway 331, sometimes 25 or 30 cars long, then several car lengths back there would be another 25 or 30 string of cars. In little old Florida, cars were lined up from one to the other behind the three traffic lights in town. Sure am glad we were not in that bunch driving from Tennessee, Illinois, Ohio, etc. with that kind of heavy traffic! If you were at the beach, hopefully you enjoyed the company of all those eager beaver vacationing folks.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

of the things we Think, Say or Do

- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

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TELEPHONE (334) 897-2823 or FAX (334) 897-3434
Toll Free 1-888-216-8050 e-mail: clipper@alaweb.com

John Ferrin Cox - PUBLISHER
Marvin McIlwain - EDITOR
Ricky Mulaz - SPORTS
Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year
6 months - \$9, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$19 per year - including tax
6 months - \$10
Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

EDITORIAL

Legislators should be banned from doing business with the state

by Senator Bill Armistead

When state legislators use their position as an elected official to obtain business from the state, it is wrong. As they say, a rotten apple in the barrel spoils the entire barrel and I don't like the stench. It is time for the Alabama Ethics Commission to come down hard on those legislators who are spoiling the barrel.

I must say that there are only a handful of legislators who continue to stink up the atmosphere in Montgomery, but their numbers seem to be growing. Their main focus in life seems to be looking for a way to benefit themselves, personally. One day they try to pass a bill to give legislators a state pension. The next day they try to sneak in a pay increase. In the final hours of the just-concluded session they tried once again to pass these measures, but failed.

This past week we learned how some legislators continue to find ways to stay at the rough feeding of public funds (your tax dollars). One legislator, Rep. Oliver Robinson of Birmingham, decided that he

would like to get in on the action by seeking business from the state for his investment firm. But, he approached it in a proper manner by asking the Ethics Commission whether his investment firm could solicit public business.

Current state law already requires bidding on services and goods costing more than \$7,500, but professional services, such as legal work and investment advice, are exempt from the state's bid law. The Ethics Commission responded to Robinson's request by voting to issue an opinion prohibiting lawmakers, and other public officials, from signing state contracts unless they get the job through competitive bidding. Chalk up one for the Ethics Commission.

Rep. Ken Guinn, the Democrat leader in the House of Representatives, approached the issue differently from Robinson. He didn't ask permission, he just jumped in and gave a contract with the state. I guess he figures it is better to ask forgiveness than permission. Guinn's state contract is for \$10,000.

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, June 26, 2000, investigated the following incidents: one burglary, five harassments, eight thefts of property, one missing juvenile, one property damage, one DUI, one dog bite, and one criminal mischief.

The following arrests were made: one for criminal mischief, two for theft of property, one for harassment, one for failure to pay, and six for failure to appear.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: eleven for speeding, four for driver's license not in possession, two for driving without first obtaining a driver's license, six for failure to obey seat belt law, three for an expired tag, one for driving the wrong way on a one-way street, two for driving while driver's license are suspended, one for DUI, one for improper passing, one for no tail lights, and one for driving while driver's license are revoked.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, JUNE 26 - River stage - 2:27 (6:09 a.m.); Burglary reported at Padgett Oil (7:26 a.m.); Disturbance at a residence on Co. Rd. 410 (3:15 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Williams Street (8:41 p.m.); Wreck (vehicle vs. manhole cover) on Cordelia Street (9:51 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JUNE 27 - River stage - 2:16 (6:46 a.m.); Burglary reported at a residence on Plant Avenue (10:39 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Airport Road (12:26 p.m.); Wreck reported on U. S.

Highway 331.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 - River stage - 2:28 (6:00 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on West Davis Street (7:29 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on West McKinnon Street in New Brockton (11:17 p.m.).

THURSDAY, JUNE 29 - Disturbance reported at a residence on Tac Runkle Road (12:25 a.m.); River stage - 2:35 (6:20 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Old Curtis Road (12:49 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to Runt's Auto Saw (1:42 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Troy Highway (10:12 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JUNE 30 - River stage - 2:30 (6:24 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Burch's Trailer Park on Martin Luther King Drive (5:51 p.m.); Routine activity.

SATURDAY, JULY 1 - River stage - 2:25 (6:46 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on North Clanton Avenue (12:25 p.m.); Routine activity.

SUNDAY, JULY 2 - Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Co. Rd. 315 (12:50 a.m.); River stage - 2:22 (6:28 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on Hickman Avenue (11:34 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Co. Rd. 105 (11:55 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to a residence on Co. Rd. 315 (12:41 p.m.).

ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. City Hall.

WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6 p.m. City Hall.

GRIFEE SUPPORT GROUP - every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church - enter on side on W. Davis St.

COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton.

LIANS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues - 6:30 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School.

VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER - Mon-Fri 8-12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5858.

COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat - 3 p.m. - Club House.

COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn.

AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 1st Tues - 5:30 p.m. - Supp. Office.

AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thur - 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

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COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat - 3 p.m. - Club House.

COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn.

AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 1st Tues - 5:30 p.m. - Supp. Office.

AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thur - 7:30 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

MASONIC LODGE 170 - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7 p.m.

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AIRPORT AUTHORITY - 1st Tues - 5:3

CHURCH

Vacation Bible School beginning July 16-20 at Elba First Baptist Church

First Baptist Church of Elba invites all children age 3 through 10th grade to join "The Fantastic Good News Ocean Odyssey." Get ready for an underwater experience that is too good to miss. Every day will include an exciting Worship Rally in the Worship Rally, Sunday morning. Then kids will scuba dive through adventure-filled bible stories, create wonderful ocean crafts, explore unique missions reefs, experience extraordinary Ocean Odyssey music, taste delicious snacks and dive into creative recreation.

This "once-in-a-lifetime" opportunity is offered to every child in the community. There will be a fine catch of trained dive instructors (teachers, that is) for this incredible descent into the depths of the ocean. The focus will be "Diving into the Depths of God's Faithfulness."

The Fantastic Good News Odyssey will be held at First Baptist Church, 606 West Simmons Street, in Elba on July 16-20, Sunday-Thursday. Each day will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a snack supper and end at 8:30 p.m. For more information, please call First Baptist Church at 897-2246.

Springhill Emmanuel Church to host a mini-revival service

Springhill Emmanuel Church is located on Hwy. 167, 1 1/4 miles South of Ward's Grocery. Every one is invited to attend these special events.

There is a trust fund for the cemetery set up at SouthTrust Bank in Elba. Please make donations at the bank or send them to: Lena L. Farris, 614 Kendrick St., Apt. 4, Elba, AL 36625.

Donations being sought for Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Cemetery Fund

If anyone has friends or loved ones buried in the Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery, the church needs donations to help with the up-keep of the cemetery.

Homecoming to be held at Bluff Springs Baptist Church

Bluff Springs Baptist Church will celebrate Homecoming on Sunday, July 9, with J.J. Hattaway bringing the message. Lunch will follow the morning service. Everyone is invited. The church is located on Coffee County Road 304.

EUMC plans Vacation Bible School for July 10-14

Vacation Bible School will be held at Elba United Methodist Church, July 10-14. There will be great stories, games, and crafts. The theme will be CLUB CAN DO. All children are invited to attend.



ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

Scripture: Ephesians 3:1-21

***Thinking of you, Praying for you. The Terry Family, Edith Brown, John E. Williams, Lela Tyson, Ella Mae Brooks.

***Happy Birthday! Joyce B. Johnson, July 7; Evelyn B. Manning, July 8; Malik Kelley, July 9; Lydia Kelley, July 10; Kenya Ann Martin, July 10; Connie Moody, July 13; Curtis Kelley, July 13; Christina Kelley, July 17; Brandy Kelley, July 17; Lynn Kelley, July 17; Jeremy Lane, July 20; Kathy Johnson, July 26; and Myron Duncan, July 28.

***Homecoming Services at Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Elba, will be July 16-21 p.m. Rev. Darrell Caldwell, Bethlehem Baptist Church, will bring the sermon. All churches have a special invitation.

***Annual Revival of Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist Church, Elba, will be July 16-21, at 7:15 p.m. Evangelist will be Rev. Frazier Reynolds, Shady Grove Baptist Church, Daleville. Everyone welcome.

So, let's now look for him in the church (Old Rocky Head Missionary Baptist) where he spent so many days (and not just Sundays) waiting very patiently, but also just as eagerly, in the first pew, waiting for the opportunity to jump up and present one of his "sayings" — or one of what he called his "metaphors." And if you knew him at all, you knew if he became emotional, any speaker, any singer, and preacher was in danger. Why? Because Daddy Grover would run to that person, grab that person in a bear hug, and refuse to let that person go until he felt a blessing. But, we looked for him in the church as well, and he wasn't to be found.

Still, there's one last place we have yet to look. Finally, let's look for him in his home-workshop, where he was a latter-day doctor George Washington Carver. Daddy Grover believed he could make anything if he studied it long enough. He would pick it up, turn it from side to side, top to bottom, and then mumble quietly to himself "Uh Huh, Uh Huh — I think I got it now!" The he would shout aloud "I can make one of them!" and reply to any gift he received, he would always say "Thank you, thank you, thank you." Without fail, those words of appreciation were always said three times — no more, no less. But, we looked for him in his home-workshop as well, and still he wasn't to be found.

Wait a minute! Look! Guess what! Thank God Almighty! We just found our daddy at last! And you know what? He has always been right where we finally found him. And if you want to hear him, if you want to see him, if you really

want to reach out and touch him, just ask his offspring and descendants and we'll share him with you. Because (Eureka!), we found him at long last right where he has always been: residing lovingly and eternally deep within all our hearts. So "Nuff!"

From: Milt Belcher
***Annual Homecoming and Revival Service for Oak Grove Baptist Church (Dante's Crossroads, Elba) will be July 9-14. Revival services will be held at 7 p.m. nightly.

***Vacation Bible School will be held at Greater New Zion MB Church, Elba, July 10-14, from 5:30-7 p.m. nightly. Transportation provided. Contact the church at 897-5545 or director Belinda Ordan at 897-3017.

Today is a good day, be grateful! Eria

John Marshall Folmar celebrates very first birthdays

John Marshall Folmar celebrated his first birthday Sunday, July 2, with a Bear in the Big Blue House party at the Panama City Beach home of his paternal grandparents. He is the son of Matt and Amy Folmar of Troy. He is the grandson of John and Barbara Vaughan of Henderson, Ky., formerly of Troy and Elba, and Joel and Anna Folmar of Panama City Beach, Fla., formerly of Troy.

Annual Bedsole Reunion planned for Saturday, July 22nd

The annual Bedsole reunion will be held at the Doug Tew Recreation Center, Dothan, Ala., on Saturday, July 22, beginning at 10 a.m. Tew Recreation Center is located at 300 Garland Street just off South Oaks Street near Dothan High School. All Bedsole descendants and friends are invited. Bring a dish for lunch. For information, please contact Kenneth Bedsole at 347-7949 (Enterprise, Ala.), or e-mail ktdoken@juno.com.

Green Christmas wreaths tied with candlelight ribbons adorned the entrance doors to the church. To the right in the foyer was a Christmas tree decorated with beanie

security card, and an Alabama immunization record. Students planning to attend kindergarten for the 2000-2001 school year should be registered prior to Kindergarten Jumpstart which will be held on July 3-7 and will reopen on July 10. School officials will be available to register students Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. from the tents of August until school starts. At the time of registration, the school will need a copy of the student's birth certificate, social

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LIFESTYLES

Mr. Moore & Miss Lewis united in holy matrimony

Elizabeth Kelly Lewis of Enterprise and Kevin Wesley Moore of Opp were married on December 4, 1999, at the Opp Church of Christ. Minister Barry M. Elliott officiated at the wedding ceremony.

Parents of the couple are Mr. and Mrs. Ray Maxwell Lewis of Enterprise and Mr. and Mrs. Randle Lamar Moore of Opp.

A program of wedding music was presented by vocalists David and Denise Pearce of Opp, and pianist Hilda Hagins of Enterprise.

The bride, given in marriage by her father, wore a candlelight sleeveless a-line gown. The bodice was beaded with crystals and pearls with the full satin skirt ending in a chapel train. Her veil was attached to a hand adorned with crystals and pearls. The bride's bouquet was cream-colored sweetheart roses, baby's breath and greenery tied with translucent ribbon.

Matron of honor was Ginny Lewis Adams of Andalusia, sister of the bride. Bridesmaids were Michele Martin Thompson of Enterprise; Leigh Matthews Wilks of Mobile; Sonya Moore of Kingston, sister-in-law of the groom; and April Hawthorne of Kingston, cousin of the groom. The attendants wore navy satin gowns with an overlay of chiffon. They carried long-stemmed cream roses tied with candlelight and navy ribbons.

Next to the cake was a candelabra holding white tapers and decorated with white satin ribbons and tulle. Behind the bride's table was a white lattice screen draped with white tulle and satin ribbon, lighted ficus trees, ferns and palm trees.

The groom's table was shrouded in white with an overlay of a hand-crocheted tablecloth made by the bride's maternal grandmother. The four-tiered wedding cake separated by white columns was decorated in the center of each tier with miniature white flowers and greenery. Next to the cake was a candelabra holding white tapers and decorated with white satin ribbons and tulle.

A behind the bride's table was a white lattice screen draped with white tulle and satin ribbon, lighted ficus trees, ferns and palm trees. The groom's table was shrouded in white with an overlay of a hand-crocheted tablecloth made by the bride's maternal grandmother. The four-tiered wedding cake separated by white columns was decorated in the center of each tier with miniature white flowers and greenery. Next to the cake was a candelabra holding white tapers and decorated with white satin ribbons and tulle.

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chicken fingers, sausage balls, cheese straws, raw vegetables, fresh fruits and nuts.

Prenuptial Parties

The groom's parents entertained the wedding party, family and friends at Moore's Country Buffet Restaurant following the wedding rehearsal.

On October 21, a Bed, Bath and Kitchen Shower was held in the home of Susan Phares. Other hostesses were Jeannie Bryan, Jennifer Hollis, Alice Rhodes, Sherry Eddins, Janet McAliley, Mary Meeks, Judy Stinnett, Debbie Walter, Sarah Dial, Myra Henderson, Sonja Dickson, Flo Nichols, Brenda Stinson, Rosemary Carter and Margie Watson.

A Miscellaneous Shower was held on October 23 in the Citizen's Bank Community Room. Hostesses were Linda Martin, Linda Anders, Fran Sharpe, Ann Gentry, Debra Gibson, Michele Thompson, Cathy Ellison, Mary Pruden, Lou Meredith, Vickie LeCompte, Glenda Heath, Angie Holley, Redel Cawthon, Kay Barnes, Kitty Adams, Betty Dyess, Layne East-erling, Kathy Gant, Sharon Hunt, Carolyn Patrick, Betty Walls Moore and Judy Thomas.

On October 24, a Miscellaneous Shower was held in the Jeffcoat Center in Opp. Hostesses were Vera Ann Bess, Chris Hawthorne, Sonia Moore, Connie Hawthorne, Melody Hawthorne, Marie Hawthorne, Margaret Butts and Carolyn Powell.

A Miscellaneous Shower was held on November 7 in the Social Hall of the Opp Church of Christ. Hostesses were Sandra King and Ginny Adams.

On December 4, the groom's parents at Moore's Country Buffet hosted a groomsmen's luncheon.

Refreshment tables shrouded in white and covered with lace tablecloths held an array of food including cheese balls, dips, sandwiches,

chicken fingers, sausage balls, cheese straws, raw vegetables, fresh fruits and nuts.

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chicken

SPORTS

Views from...

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

I guess even an 11-year-old can get too much of a good thing! Melanie had been to the City Pool just about every day this summer, but last week surprised us not once, but twice by announcing that she didn't want to go to the pool. Saturday she even stayed home and cleaned her room, and on Sunday afternoon she helped sort out her closet. I'm not sure what is going on, but I know her well enough to know that she will expect a reward for her recent good behavior.

SPORTS NOTES ON A HOT SUMMER WEEK...

*** Elba High School announced its new head basketball coach last week, and to the surprise of just about everyone, the new coach named was Karl Bledsole. Bledsole coached at Greenville High the last three years, and had previously been the head coach at Geneva. I refereed a couple of his team's games the past few years while he was at Greenville, and his teams played an up-tempo style of game and were fun to watch. I firmly believe that Elba is loaded with basketball talent all the way down to the elementary grades, and hope that Coach Bledsole will indeed work hard and help lead the Elba Tigers to the top of the basketball world in 3A circles. The players are here, the fan support is here and all the ingredients are in place for Elba to be a dominant force in basketball for years to come. Okay coach, lead the way!

*** The Coffee County Board of Education refilled its athletic cupboards last week after cleaning house a few weeks ago, and while many of the names were the same when the dust cleared, there were a few changes worth mentioning. New Brockton High School named a new head coach in both football and basketball, and I think they did a good job on both counts. Shannon Clark was a popular assistant coach with both the players and his fellow coaches at New Brockton, and should be just what the doctor ordered to return the Gamecocks to their winning ways of the past, while Brad Garner is a young and energetic coach that has head coaching experience at the 4A and 5A levels, and will bring an exciting brand of basketball to the Gamecock gym. The head coaches up at Zion Chapel made a quick return to their respective sports, with the only change being in baseball, where long time head basketball coach Doug Branson will add baseball to his head basketball chores. Coach Branson is a teacher of the game in basketball, and should help move the Rebels' baseball team up to the next level. The only real surprise to me was the naming of Kinston head basketball coach Gary Glass as the new head football coach. There is no doubt that Coach Glass has the energy and desire to work hard at both jobs, but the Bulldogs have been down for many years in both sports, and the daily grind of trying to rebuild a winning program in both football and basketball seems like quite a task. Good luck, Gary!

*** The long anticipated merger of Louisville High School and Clayton High School finally became a reality last week, and while the people in both towns are upset about the merger of the two Barbour County schools, the rest of us on the outside looking in can't help but wonder how the students are going to co-exist at the same school. The basketball teams at the two schools are huge rivals and have had some infamous fights on the court in recent years, and now that the players from both schools will have to fight to even make the team, it appears that the hard feelings will only get worse. I understand that the merger was needed for the sake of offering a quality education to all the students in Barbour County, but I have my doubts as to whether or not the merger will work out in the field of athletics. It should be interesting.

*** The Alabama High School Athletic Association completed its plan to stage all the state championship events on neutral fields last week when it was announced that the state high school basketball championships would all be held in Montgomery for the next five years. The state title series, which are the best 2-of-3, will be played at Patterson Field and AUM, with all championship games set for Patterson Field. The championships will be held on May 16-19, and will coincide with the state softball championships, which will also be held in Montgomery on May 17-18. With the football and basketball championships in Birmingham, I guess Montgomery was the obvious choice for baseball. Hey, at least it is closer than Birmingham.

IT IS SPLASH TIME AT THE ELBA CITY POOL !!!!
Tuesday - Friday 12:00 - 6:00
Saturday 10:00 - 6:00 Sunday 1:00 - 5:00

THANK YOU!!



My Family and I would like to thank the people of Coffee County for their prayers and support in the Primary and Runoff elections for the Democratic Nominee for the Office of Circuit Clerk.

Please remember me in the General Election on Nov. 7, 2000. As always, your support is greatly appreciated.

Mickey

Pub. Pol. Adv. by Mickey Counts for Circuit Clerk, P.O. Box 311526, Enterprise, AL 36031

Coffee County schools fill coaching slots in all sports

The Coffee County Board of Education met last week and refilled its athletic coaching staffs after cleaning house earlier in the summer to allow the various principals at the three county schools to evaluate the overall athletic programs at the schools.

Probably the biggest surprise came at Kinston High School, where long time head basketball coach Gary Glass was named the head basketball and head football coach for the Bulldogs. Glass had previously served as an assistant football coach at Elba High School and Kinston High School. Larry Cotney was named head baseball coach and assistant varsity football coach.

New Brockton High School was also active in making coaching assignments, with Brad Garner being named the head basketball coach and Shannon Clark being named the head football coach. Garner had been the head basketball coach at Escambia County High School and W.S. Neal High School, and will come to New Brockton after a short stay at Andalusia Middle School. Clark was a popular assistant football coach at New Brockton, and was considered the leading candidate for the opening. Other coaching assignments included Terry Putnam - assistant varsity football and head baseball coach, Scott Quisenberry - assistant varsity football coach.

Dixie Pre-Majors post one win at District tournament

The Elba Dixie Pre-Majors All-Stars competed in the Pre-Majors District Baseball Tournament last week in Lurvenne and claimed one win in three outings, in the 12-team tournament.

Following are highlights of the All-Stars tournament run:

ELBA 8 ASHFORD 5

The Elba All-Stars jumped out to an early 5-0 lead and held on late, to post an 8-5 win over Ashford. A two-run triple by Marcus Henderson sparked Elba's first inning fireworks as the All-Stars jumped ahead 3-0, while a two-run double by Jason Curran made it 5-0 in the second. Ashford scored two runs in the fourth inning to cut the lead to 5-2, but Elba answered with two runs in the top of the fifth to regain command at 7-2, with the key hit being a triple by Rick Smith. Ashford rallied again in its half of the sixth, however, Elba held on and claimed the 8-5 win.

Brandon Petty and Marcus Henderson both got 2 hits to lead Elba at the plate.

OPP 9 ELBA 2

The Elba All-Stars fell behind early and never recovered in a 9-2

Blue Jays down Rockies in Coach-Pitch baseball finals

The Elba Coach-Pitch Baseball League completed its season recently with a single-elimination tournament, at Legion Field, and claiming the league championship for the 2000 season were the Blue Jays.

Following are highlights of the tournament action:

*** **PHILLIES 17 RAYS 16** - The Phillies opened the tournament with an exciting 17-16 win over the Rays. Kyle Roehrer and Sky for Thanes both scored 3 runs for the Phillies, while Matt Halstead, Zeb Danley and Jeremy Johnson all scored 2 runs. Ben Pope and Jacob Pettie both scored 3 runs for the Rays, while Ryan Pope, Daniel Bannin and Jason Allen all scored 2 runs. Scoring 2 runs for

the Phillies were Kyle Roehrer, Sky for Thanes, Matt Halstead, Brandon Farnon, Rob Driggers, Jamar Jackson and Nickalus Stephens.

*** **ROCKIES 22 RED SOX 13** - The Rockies scored runs in bunches to post a 22-13 win over the Red Sox. Jessie Stokes, Tyler Wise, Chance Gosby and Desonta Tillis all scored 3 runs for the Rockies, while Joseph Coxwell, Jessie Nelson, Tommy Morris and Sebastian Haddaway all scored 2 runs. Kevin Allen scored 4 runs for the Red Sox, while Jaron Kelley, Chase Sauls and Jantzen Flowers all scored 2 runs.

*** **BLUE JAYS 14 ROCKIES 13** - The Blue Jays claimed the tournament title with an exciting 14-13 win over the Rockies. Scoring 2 runs for the Blue Jays were Marcus Caldwell, Josh Johnson, Michael Spurlin, Merrill Curran and Brandon Byrd. Josh Maddox scored 3 runs for the Rockies, while scoring 2 runs were Isaac Nelson, Tyler Wise, and Jonathan Bryant.

The opening day schedule will be as follows:

THURSDAY, JULY 6
4:00 - Elba Americans vs. Enterprise Americans
6:00 - Geneva vs. Sanson
8:00 - Elba Nationals vs. Enterprise Nationals

SUPPORT THE ELBA ALL-STARS WITH YOUR ATTENDANCE AT THE GAMES!! LET'EM HEAR YOU CHEER!!



ELBA "16 AND UNDER" ALL-STARS - A.R.P.A. DISTRICT SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS... The Elba All-Stars won the A.R.P.A. District 7 softball championship recently and will represent Elba at the State Tournament on July 15-16, in Alexander City. Team Elba includes (kneeling, l-r) Amber Norris, LaKisha Flowers, Melissa Mularz, Melanie McGlothen, Heather Danley, (standing, l-r) Jenna Donaldson, Kern Griffin, Karla Huguley, Michelle Lewis, Rachel Bludsworth and Coach Ricky Mularz.

Elba Americans walk past Nationals in DM opener

The Dixie Minor Sub-District 3 Baseball Tournament swung into action last weekend at Elba's Legion Field, with the Elba Americans claiming a marathon 18-5 win over the Elba Nationals, in an opening round contest that lasted over two and one-half hours.

In other opening round games, the Enterprise Americans defeated the Enterprise Nationals 12-11 and Geneva pounded Sanson/Kinston 17-7.

Following are highlights of the battle of the Elba All-Stars:

ELBA AMERICANS 18 ELBA NATIONALS 5

The Elba Americans combined 7 hits with 16 walks to post a wild 18-5 win over the Elba Nationals, in opening round action on Saturday night.

A two-run double off the bat of Matthew Branson was the only hit for the Americans in the top of the first as they jumped out to a quick 6-0 lead, and the Americans added three runs in the third inning to move on top 9-0. A two-run single by Chris Thames sparked a 3-run third inning for the Enterprise Americans, but the Americans added four runs in the fifth and then plated five runs in the sixth to pull away and post the lopsided win.

Cody Arnold got 2 hits and scored 4 runs to lead the Americans at the plate, while Gage Nalley added 1 hit and scored 3 runs, and Trey Martin had 1 hit and scored 2 runs. Kyle Purvis and Chris Thames both got 1 hit for the Nationals.

Joshua Smith got 2 hits and collected 3 rbis to lead Elba at the plate, while Heath Parker, T.J. Winters, Tanner Medley and Heath Danford all added 1 hit.

GENEVILLE 12 ELBA 0

The Elba All-Stars managed only four hits over six innings as they were eliminated by Geneville 12-0. Greenville combined four hits with five walks and five Elba errors to jump out to a 9-0 second inning advantage, and Elba never staged a serious rally as they took the loss.

Heath Parker got 2 hits, including a triple, to lead Elba at the plate, while T.J. Winters also added 2 hits and Joshua Smith got 1 hit.

TROY 17 ELBA 7

The Elba All-Stars suffered their first loss in the Sub-District Tournament when they were outscored by Troy 17-7. Elba jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead in the top of the first, with the key hit being a two-run single by Heath Parker. However, Troy combined three hits with four walks and seven Elba errors to

the Phillies were Kyle Roehrer, Sky for Thanes, Matt Halstead, Brandon Farnon, Rob Driggers, Jamar Jackson and Nickalus Stephens.

*** **ROCKIES 22 RED SOX 13** - The Rockies scored runs in bunches to post a 22-13 win over the Red Sox. Jessie Stokes, Tyler Wise, Chance Gosby and Desonta Tillis all scored 3 runs for the Rockies, while Joseph Coxwell, Jessie Nelson, Tommy Morris and Sebastian Haddaway all scored 2 runs. Kevin Allen scored 4 runs for the Red Sox, while Jaron Kelley, Chase Sauls and Jantzen Flowers all scored 2 runs.

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SPORTS



GIRLS WINNERS... (l-r) Mallory Allen - 2nd, Allison Mitchell - 1st, and Kristen Barnes - 3rd.



BOYS 11-12 WINNERS... (Front, l-r) Jeffery Wise, Timothy Jackson, (Back, l-r) Tripp Owens, Nick Weeks, Aaron Jacobs and Trent Carnley.

Colby Capps wins Elba C.C. Junior Invitational



COLBY CAPPS...won both the 13-14 division and the overall title at the Elba Country Club's annual Junior Invitational Golf Tournament.

Capps was tied for the overall championship after 18 holes of play with two players from older age divisions, but won the title on the first hole of sudden death.

Following are complete tournament results in all age divisions:

AGE 17-18
 Chris Chetsten Geneva 37-40-77
 Eric Mitchell Troy 41-38-79
 Newton Campbell Troy 41-38-79
 Adam Riley Geneva 44-39-83
 Mark Breedlove Opp 47-42-89
 Neil Grantham Elba 49-46-95

AGE 15-16
 Bart Barnes Elba 41-36-77
 Justin Allen Elba 40-38-78
 Adam Pickron Opp 40-39-79
 Charles Mallalieu Troy 41-43-84
 Colby Skinner Elba 46-40-86
 Blake Lambert Elba 57-56-113

AGE 13-14
 Colby Capps 39-38-77
 Derrick Thomas 40-43-83
 Casey Kreis 44-42-86
 Ralston Moore Elba 44-43-87
 Ben Dye Elba 48-44-92
 Ryan Gibbs Elba 52-48-100
 Clark Skinner Elba 53-51-104
 Taylor McGuire Elba 55-50-105

AGE 11-12
 Tripp Owens Brewton 42-40-82
 Timothy Jackson Elba 44-46-90
 Jeffery Wise Elba 57-55-112
 Dustin Rhoades Elba 62-63-125

AGE 10 AND UNDER
 Nick Weeks Elba 36-38-76
 Trent Carnley Opp 51-44-95
 Aaron Jacobs Kinston 48-51-99
 Michael Jackson Elba 53-52-105
 Kevin Allen Elba 53-55-108
 John Jared Elba 53-56-109

GIRLS DIVISION
 Allison Mitchell Troy 39-40-79
 Mallory Allen Elba 47-49-96
 Kristen Barnes Elba 52-50-102
 Lyndsay Lawford Elba 53-55-108
 Whitney Lawford Elba 61-60-121

AGE 13-14
 Colby Capps 39-38-77
 Derrick Thomas 40-43-83
 Casey Kreis 44-42-86
 Ralston Moore Elba 44-43-87
 Ben Dye Elba 48-44-92
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 Clark Skinner Elba 53-51-104
 Taylor McGuire Elba 55-50-105

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Kinston volleyball camp set for July 24-28

Kinston High School will host its "Volleyball Camp 2000" on July 24-28 at the Kinston High School gym. Campers in grades 5-8 will attend the clinic daily from 9:00 AM - 12:00 (noon), while campers in grades 9-12 will attend from 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM. Clinicians will be Kinston Lady Bulldog coaches Amelia Rhoades and Jamie Wiggins, and the cost of the camp is \$50 per camper. Skills and techniques taught will include serving, hitting, setting, blocking, passing, offense and defense. For more information contact camp director Amelia Rhoades at 565-3111, ext. 26, or 565-3240.

Bobby Johns announces resignation as head football coach at West Alabama

West Alabama head football coach Bobby Johns announced that he will resign his post at UWA following the 2000 season after his wife Karen Johns was named head softball coach at the University of Florida.

Karen Johns, an assistant at the University of Alabama for the past four seasons, announced her intention to take over at Florida on Monday.

"I love West Alabama," said Bobby Johns, entering his fourth season at UWA. "When I accepted the head coaching position, I told the administration I was looking to finish my career here. Our moving on is really just a family decision. We happen to have two coaches in our family, and one of us got an offer we couldn't refuse."

Johns, 54, came to UWA as a newly hired defensive coordinator in 1996 and took over as head coach in 1997. His three campaigns at the West Alabama helm

have brought inspired play and quality student-athletes to the Livingston campus. Johns' 23 record at UWA has come amidst a successful rebuilding process, with high hopes and renewed expectations for the 2000 season.

"Coach Johns has been a true role model in our University and our community," said UWA President Ed D. Roach. "It has been an honor to have him as our football coach. We recognize the great opportunity he and his family have been afforded at the University of Florida, and we want Coach Johns to have all the freedom and flexibility he needs to win football games this season at West Alabama."

UWA Athletic Director Dee Outlaw agreed, noting that the University is disappointed to lose a coach of such high caliber.

"I'm a better person for having Bobby as a friend and a better administrator for having him as one of our coaches," Outlaw explained. "We want him to win big this fall and give him all the support he needs as his family moves on to bigger and better things. I'm very excited for Karen. She's worked hard for that position. We'll miss her and Coach Johns as part of our athletic family."

Johns has spent the last 28 years in college coaching, including stops at South Carolina, Eastern Kentucky, Tennessee-Chattanooga, Florida State, Valdosta State, and North Alabama. He was a two-time All-American (1966-67) and three-time All-SEC (1965-67) cornerback at the University of Alabama under legendary head coach Paul "Bear"

Brant. UWA will begin a national search for a replacement this fall, while Johns will continue as head coach through the 2000 season. West Alabama football opens at non-conference rival Stillman College on Saturday, September 2, in Tuscaloosa.

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And that won't change.

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BOYS 13-14 WINNERS... (Front, l-r) Ralston Moore, Colby Capps, (Back, l-r) Derick Thomas and Casey Kreis.



BOYS 15-16 AND 17-18 WINNERS... (Front, l-r) Bart Barnes, Justin Allen, (Back, l-r) Adam Pickron, Eric Mitchell and Newton Campbell.

Elba golfers enjoy busy, but successful summer on links

It has been a busy summer of golf for a number of youth golfers from the Elba Country Club, and the local linksters have left their mark everywhere they have competed as they have brought home trophies from almost every stop.

The summer schedule began in Brundidge, where a trio of Elba golfers all brought home first place trophies. Nick Weeks claimed the "10 and Under" title, while Ben Dye won the crown in the "13-14" age group and Bart Barnes carried home the title in the "15-16" age division. Elba's Colby Capps placed second in the 13-14 division.

Elba was also well represented in the Geneva Invitational, where Colby Capps won the overall championship with a 75. Nick Weeks placed second in the "10 and Under" age group. Colby Capps won the crown in "13-14"

The Southern Junior was held at the Saughatchee Country Club, in Auburn, and once again Elba Country Club left its name on the leader board. Colby Capps fired rounds of 77-84 to place sixth, with his opening round 77 earning first day medalist honors. Bart Barnes shot rounds of 79-84 to place in the top half of the 15-16 division. Justin Allen also competed in the prestigious event.

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every 3rd Friday night of the month. Stockyard. Tack sale 6 p.m. and Horses 8 p.m. Located on Hwy. 84 W. in Elba, AL. For more information, call 897-2545. 9-12-4tc

ELBA INSULATION CO. Resident

or commercial. Batts or blown-in fiberglass insulation. Call Earl Yates 897-3630. 4-1-4tc

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PRODUCE

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BIG 5 FAMILY YARD SALE - SAT. JULY 8th 7:00 until 1:00. 105 Champ McCollough Rd. (H.W. Ball Park Road). Toys, Furniture, Dishes, Interiors, Exercise Equipment, Clothes, & Much More. 7-6-1tc

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YARD SALE - Saturday, July 8th, 7:00 A.M. Large Size Clothing, 1st thru 22 W. Miscellaneous Items, 192 Larkin Road. (Airport Road). 7-6-1tc

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Community News

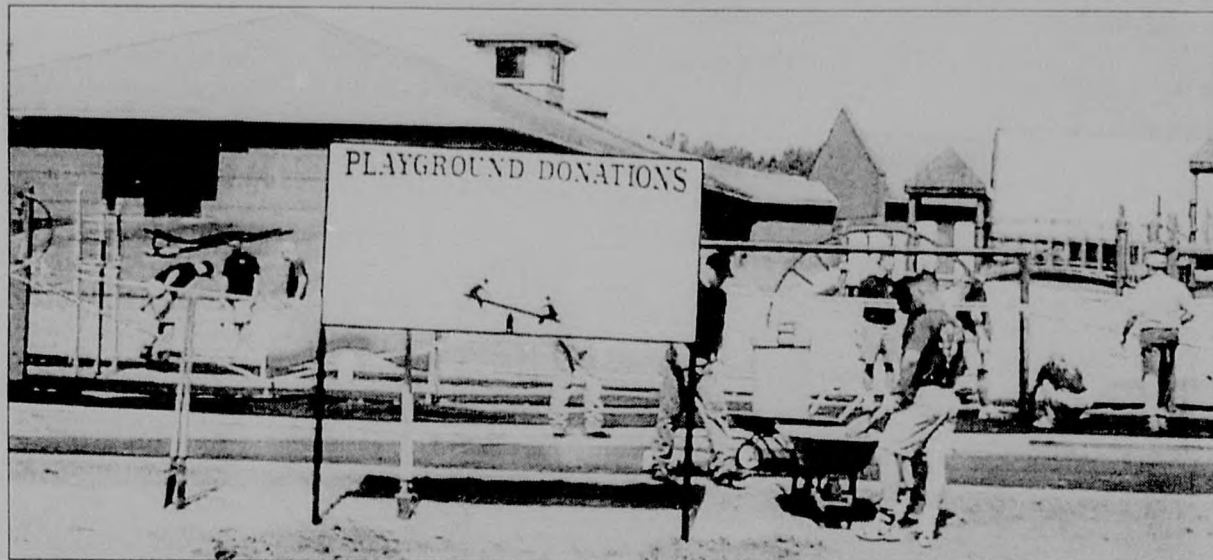
EES receives community and military assistance with installation of new playground



Elba Elementary School was fortunate to have the assistance of Warrant Officer Candidate Gray Flight Class 00-10 from Ft. Rucker in the installation of its new playground. The playground was purchased for the school by the PTO (Parent Teacher Organization). Alabama State Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer donated a portion of the money used by the PTO to the school. Additional funds were donated by local businesses and individuals and were acquired through PTO fund raisers. The completed playground will total around \$35,000. The equipment was delivered and put into place in mid-June. Elba Elementary was left with the job of making the playground surface safe for student use. This involved the removal and reinstallation of some old equipment, building a border of landscape timbers to hold pine chips which will serve to cushion falls, spreading two dumptruck loads of pine chips, building two flower beds to make the playground more attractive and digging holes and installing two signs recognizing those assisting with the purchase of the equipment. The Warrant Officer Candidates, PTO officers, playground committee members, school administrators and a few eager parents began working at around 8 a.m. on Saturday, June 23, and worked until around 5 p.m. that afternoon. By the end of the day, the playground was very close to completion. Additional work will be done during the summer to have the playground ready for students to enjoy when school starts on Aug. 4.

According to school officials, this has been a very successful project that will benefit every student at Elba Elementary. Officials insist that it is a wonderful example of a community and a school working together to accomplish an extremely worthwhile goal.

"Elba Elementary greatly appreciates the hard work of the Warrant Officer Candidates from Ft. Rucker and the efforts of all involved. We wouldn't have this much-needed new playground without you."



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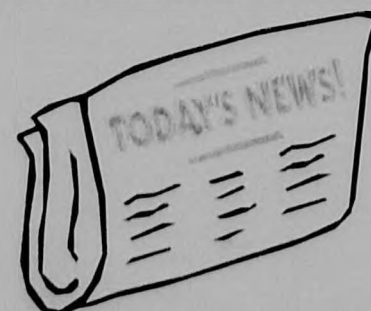
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Volume 104, Number 5

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, July 13, 2000

1 Section, 12 Pages Plus 1 Ad Insert

MINOR ADJUSTMENTS MADE TO THREE-YEAR PLAN

Commission goes behind closed doors to discuss pending legal action

by Marvin McLain, Editor

The Coffee County Commission met in its bi-monthly meeting Monday and interjected a forty-minute executive session in the middle of its agenda.

Commissioners went behind closed doors for close to forty minutes to discuss with their attorneys, Kenneth Fuller and Joe Cassidy, the legal action filed against the commission by former chief juvenile probation officer Eva McGrath-Love.

There is a motion presently before the courts filed by county attorneys to have the lawsuit dismissed because McGrath-Love failed to submit substantial evidence in support of her case. They further contend that she did not take the necessary steps to obtain a hearing following her dismissal by District Judge Steve Blair who oversees the juvenile probation officers.

A hearing on the county's motion to dismiss has been set for Friday, July 21. The commissioners made no comment and took no action after coming out of executive session Monday.

Turning to other matters of business, County Engineer Randy Tindell presented several matters requiring action by the commissioners.

He commented that the highway department was presently in the final year of a three-year plan adopted by the commission two years ago. Tindell noted that several roads are scheduled for leveling and resurfacing with chip seal, and since the travel study (traffic count) was made on some of these roads the conditions have changed and other roads are more traveled or the need for resurfacing is greater. One

such case is Co. Rd. 119.

"The traffic on Co. Rd. 119 is about twice as much as the traffic on [Co. Rd.] 134," said Tindell. In the initial study, the grades (traffic counts & condition) were about the same on both roads.

At the request of Commissioner Kayo Lewis, in whose the district the roads are located, Tindell requested a resolution by the commission inserting Co. Rd. 119 into the plan in place of Co. Rd. 134. Commissioners passed the resolution.

In a similar action, the commission agreed to insert Co. Rd. 305 in place of Co. Rds. 306 & 308 in the final phase of the three-year plan. Tindell commented that "numerous logging activities and other heavy truck activities have severely deteriorated that roadway" since the grading of the roads was initially performed in preparation for the three-year plan.

Tindell also noted that Co. Rds. 306 & 308 had been designated by the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) as minor collector roads, and it appears that there may be funding through the FHA for minor collector roads in the near future.

"We would not need to spend county money on something that the federal money could be spent on," said Tindell. County Road 305 is not designated as a major or minor collector road and would not qualify for any federal funds.

Commissioner Linda Westbrook, in whose district these roads are located, concurred with Tindell's request.

Commissioners gave Tindell the go-ahead in making application for state funds in the updating of Co. Rds. 409, 412 & 201.

Candidate qualifying underway in Elba's mayor & city council races

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

Candidate qualifying is underway in the mayor and city council races in Elba. A total of six candidates have qualified, and additional candidates are expected to join the list before the July 18th deadline.

Qualifying for mayor is incumbent James Grimes.

The lone candidate for District #1 on the City Council is political newcomer Tim Williams. A Letter to the Editor in this edition of *The Elba Clipper* from incumbent Winzel Gray indicates he doesn't plan to seek reelection.

There is only one candidate qualified in District #2 at press time. Another political newcomer, David

Bandstra, has qualified in that race. Incumbent John W. Sharpless is moving out of the district and therefore can't be a candidate for that seat in the upcoming election.

District #4 is the most popular race thus far, with three candidates. Incumbent Ben Carpenter and political newcomers Harold Spicer and Lamar Hall have qualified in that race.

In District #5, incumbent Ronnie Hammond turned in his qualifying papers on Monday and is the only qualified candidate thus far.

Finally in City Council District #3, incumbent Harold Bannin qualified late Tuesday and is the only candidate in that race at press time.

David Bandstra seeking District 2 Seat on Elba City Council

David Bandstra announced this week that he has qualified and will seek the position of council person for District 2 on the Elba City Council in the upcoming municipal election.

Bandstra is a graduate of and has a B.S. degree in education from Athens State College. He is currently employed at Vivian B. Adams School in Ozark.

David is married to the former Vicki Taylor of Elba. She has been a teacher of special education for 24 years in the Elba City School System. They attend First Baptist Church. David also has been an Elba fireman for some 15 years.

Bandstra stated that some of his concerns for the city are the levee rebuild project and public safety (fire, police and rescue).

"We have one of the best equipped fire departments in Southeast Alabama, and with the upgraded water system we should have little problem lowering our ISO rating which would mean a significant savings on our citizen's homeowners insurance," Bandstra said. "If elected, I would look forward to working with the mayor and council to serve not only District 2 but all the citizens of Elba."



David Bandstra

Area Happenings

LAST DAY FOR MUNICIPAL QUALIFYING. The last day for candidates to qualify to run for municipal office is Tuesday, July 18. The qualifying form must be filed with the municipal clerk by 5:00 p.m.

COUNTY BOE MEETING. The Coffee County Board of Education will hold its monthly meeting Thursday (TODAY), July 13th, at noon in the board room located in the Central Office in Elba, Ala.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE. The American Red Cross will hold a community blood drive in Elba at the Parks and Recreation Center, 764 Claxton Street, on Friday, July 14, from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Please bring ID with birth date or Social Security number. All blood types are needed - there is a critical need.

WATER USAGE RESTRICTION. New Brockton Water Department announces that the New Brockton, Dumas, and Clintonville, and Tabernacle areas are permitted to do outside watering on an odd-even basis. Even numbered house addresses may water on even calendar days, and odd numbered house addresses may water on odd calendar days. The New Brockton Water Department thanks all customers for their cooperation during this time of extreme drought.

FARMERS MARKET. The Coffee County Farmer's Market, located at the Farm Center in New Brockton, is now open. The market will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday each week from 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. or until produce is sold out. Sellers will need a growers permit & a Farmer's Market permit - both can be obtained at the Extension Office located in the County Complex. For more information, contact Richard Petcher, County Extension Agent, at 894-5596.



LOT OF DIGGING GOING ON... However, there are no archaeological digs in progress in Elba. All of the excavation that has been taking place in several different locations throughout the city of Elba in recent months is connected to two major projects. One is the replacing or putting in of new sewer lines and the other is the repairing of old storm drains and the installation of new ones. The sewer projects are nearing completion and the repairing or the replacing of roadways should be completed in the near future. A major portion of the storm drain project is also nearing completion (along Putnam Street, Claxton Avenue and Cordelia) with another portion of the project area should alleviate the street flooding that has been occurring in that area after heavy downpours in the past. Residents in the area of the storm drain work remain in fact and unobstructed. In some cases the lines have had to be relocated. The inset is a portion of the new storm drains that are being installed on Claxton Avenue. That is what Street Superintendent Billy Meeks (in white shirt) is looking at.

The total cost of all these on-going projects is almost \$2.5 million. The sewer projects are being funded (\$2 million plus) with low-interest loans through the federal government while the storm drain projects are being funded (\$285,000 plus) with matching disaster grants.

No funds approved for levee repair

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council meeting Monday evening was again short and routine with only a brief 7 minute executive session with the city attorney breaking the routine. The announced purpose of this closed session was an employee matter.

The council also unanimously passed a resolution requested by Mayor James Grimes, addressed to U. S. Senators Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions, urging approval of funding of the authorized and long promised levee repair and rehabilitation. The authorized funding for the Elba levee is \$12,900,000.

Grimes also urged local citizens to contact members of the legislative branch and remind them of the importance of this project being in the Water and Energy appropriations budget for the upcoming year. The U. S. Senate version of that budget is being drafted now, therefore immediate response is vital.

Grimes said. The levee project received a \$5,000,000 federal appropriation in the 1991 Energy and Water budget, which was used by the Corp of Engineers for planning and design work. The Army Corp of Engineers has estimated the cost of completion at the authorized \$12,900,000 but further delays in construction will cause increases in the estimated cost of the project.

The council approved payment of monthly bills totaling \$27,055.35. This included \$1,233.69 spent on the library air conditioner; \$4,617.13 on vehicle and equipment maintenance; \$3,453.20 on recreation uniforms; \$2,216.46 on park maintenance; and \$3,587.95 on park concessions.

Police Chief R. W. Whitworth told the city fathers of an ongoing project between DARE officer

Dean Blair and a Community Watch group from the Danley Crossroads area. The group met at the Senior Citizens Center for a meal and discussions on Community Watch efforts.

Whitworth also announced that Animal Control Officer Sam Andrews is retiring and the city will be advertising for a replacement employee. The chief noted this would not be an easy position to fill, considering all that is involved with the position.

The Elba Police Department dispatchers will begin assisting with the dispatching of county deputy sheriffs at the request of Sheriff Ben Moates, according to Whitworth. He explained this would be very little additional work on the Elba department and would speed up getting deputies to a problem spot.

City Clerk Donnie Morrow said the sewer contractor is running behind and still has some lift stations work to complete. He added that the storm drain project is progressing and work began this week on the Martin Luther King portion of the work.

Mayor Grimes said he has begun working on the budget for the new

Elba man charged with 2 counts of 1st degree rape

An Elba man has been arrested and charged with rape and sodomy. Elba police have charged Anton Smith, 32, of 847 East Davis Street, Elba, with two counts of rape in the first degree, two counts of sodomy in the first degree and one count of kidnapping in the first degree.

According to EPD Investigator Johnny P. Senn, the arrest was made during the course of an investigation involving a 14-year-old female. Allegedly, the teenager was walking in the Mulberry Heights area when she was attacked by a black male.

Smith was placed in the Coffee County Jail with bonds set at \$30,000 on each count - a total of \$120,000. He remains in custody at press time.

NOTICE

Anyone experiencing a water shortage due to the drought should call one of the following numbers. If the water is being used for human consumption, call the Coffee County EMA office at (334) 894-5415. If the water is for livestock (cattle, poultry, etc.) consumption, call the USDA Service Center at (334) 894-5581.